

**Claims**

1. (Original) A stringed musical instrument, comprising:  
a body;  
strings tensioned on top of said body; and  
a pitch changer pressed against a played string, wherein said pitch changer is  
comprised of an eccentric cam arranged to engage said played string with differently  
thick portions thereof when rotated about an axis to vary tension of said played  
string.
2. (Original) The stringed musical instrument of claim 1, wherein said body is  
surfboard shaped with rounded edges for comfort.
3. (Original) The stringed musical instrument of claim 1, wherein said pitch changer  
is positioned inside a top recess on said top of said body.
4. (Original) The stringed musical instrument of claim 1, further including a lever  
connected to an axle of said eccentric cam.
5. (Original) The stringed musical instrument of claim 1, further including a stop  
connected to an axle of said eccentric cam, wherein said stop is arranged to  
engage an obstacle when said cam is rotated to a predetermined position.
6. (Original) The stringed musical instrument of claim 1, further including tuners on a  
bottom of said body, wherein adjacent ends of said strings are threaded through  
said body from a top of said body to said bottom of said body and connected to  
said tuners.
7. (Original) The stringed musical instrument of claim 1, further including tuners  
connected to said strings, wherein said tuners are comprised of knobs connected

to respective gear boxes which are positioned through a wall of a bottom recess on a bottom of said body, and extension rods in said bottom recess connected to rotatable inner ends of said gear boxes, wherein said strings are positioned through said body from said top thereof and bent around a rotatable support rod inside said bottom recess, wherein adjacent ends of said strings are connected orthogonally to respective extension rods.

8. (Original) The stringed musical instrument of claim 1, further including tuners connected to said strings, wherein said tuners are arranged in two parallel series on opposite sides of said body, said tuners are comprised of knobs attached to outer ends of respective gear boxes, and extension rods attached to rotatable inner ends of said gear boxes, wherein said extension rods on each side of said body are of graduated lengths to position inner ends of said extension rods in a stepped arrangement, wherein said extension rods attached to shorter strings are shorter, and said extension rods attached to longer strings are longer, said stepped arrangement of said extension rods enabling said extension rods to be orthogonal to said strings while enabling respective extension rods to avoid interfering with adjacent strings.

9. (Currently Amended) A stringed musical instrument, comprising:

a body;

a bridge on top of said body;

strings tensioned on top of said body and curved around said bridge to a position below an upper surface of said body; and

a combined tuner and pitch changer comprised of hinged arms pivoted on an axle, and adjustment screws respectively engaged against said hinged arms, wherein adjacent ends of said strings are attached to said hinged arms below said upper surface of said body, said adjustment screws are rotatable to adjust tension of said strings for tuning and pitch change.

10. (Original) The stringed musical instrument of claim 9, further including open slots respectively on said hinged arms to allow said strings to slide in from respective sides of said hinged arms.